

Assessments Required for High School Graduation



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SEPTEMBER 10, 2014



Presentation Roadmap



- Role of the State Board of Education in the Assessment System
- Past, Present and Future of the Washington Assessment System
- Implications for Districts of the changes in the Assessment System
- Board discussion on a legislative priority for the Assessment System



Transition Timeline



Former Phase (through Class of 2014)

- Tests based on Washington Standards
- Reading, writing, math, biology

Transition Phase (Classes of 2015-2018)

- Tests based on Common Core Standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math
- Biology (Washington Standards)
- Transitional 10th grade exit exams and SBAC

Career and College Ready (Class of 2019 and beyond)

- Smarter Balanced tests (SBAC) based on Common Core Standards in ELA and Math
- Next Generation Science Standards
- Science assessment?



Role of the Board in the Assessment System



Specific duties

- Set scores for meeting standard
- Set scores for graduation on exit exams and alternative assessments

Broad role

- Provide consultation to the SPI to maintain and continue to develop and revise the statewide Assessment System
- Provide consultation to the SPI in the transition to Common Core assessments



Draft Legislative Priority for Assessments



Modify Career & College Ready Exam Requirements

Streamline assessments required for graduation.

Legislative Action: The Board urges the Legislature to expand testing alternatives for students who do not pass the 11th grade SBAC test required for graduation, beginning with the Class of 2019.

Additionally, the Board recommends that the Legislature eliminate the biology end-of-course exam as a high school graduation requirement in favor of developing a comprehensive science exam that aligns with Next Generation Science Standards.



Systemic Issues



- **Future of Alternative Assessments**
 - ✦ What alternatives should be available during the transition years and in 2019 and beyond?
 - ✦ What should happen with Collections of Evidence?
- **Future of the Biology End-of-course (EOC) Exam**
 - ✦ Should the Biology EOC be eliminated as an exit exam?
- **Cut score for high school on the Smarter Balanced Assessment**
 - ✦ What should the Board consider in setting a cut-score for graduation that may be different from the consortium-developed score for College and Career Readiness?



Washington's Assessment System



Implications for School Districts





- **Premise:** All of us want our students to be “college- and career-ready” when they graduate.
- **Dilemma:** How can we best increase the rigor of our high school diploma while at the same time increasing the number of students who obtain that diploma?



Transition Challenges for the New Assessment System



A. Current Issues

1. On-line assessments and related technology issues
2. Record keeping and monitoring
3. Instructional/Intervention/Remediation challenges
4. Communication with students/parents/staff



Transition Challenges for the New Assessment System



A. Students graduating in 2019

1. Change from 10th to 11th grade assessment and the loss of 1 full year for students to gain the knowledge needed to meet the state's exit requirements



Transition Challenges for the New Assessment System



A. Students graduating in 2019 (continued)

2. District/High school issues include:

- a. Loss of remediation and intervention opportunities
- b. Senior year schedule impacts due to failure of one or more of the 11th grade assessments
 - i. Collection of evidence courses
 - ii. Remediation and/or new courses for students planning to retake the assessment



Transition Challenges for the New Assessment System



- A. Students graduating in 2019 (continued)
 - 2. District/High school issues include:
 - c. Reduced time to utilize the current statutory alternatives
 - d. Challenges in staffing
 - e. Need to modify the current instructional sequence





- **Dilemma Reminder:** How can we best increase the rigor of our high school diploma while at the same time increasing the number of students who obtain that diploma?



Considerations for an SBE Legislative Priority Concerning the Assessment System



- Continued work with OSPI on the development of proposed cut scores for high school graduation.
- Review how best to address science as part of our high school graduation requirements.
- Develop, in consultation with OSPI, additional and expanded alternative assessments.
- Continue to recognize the staffing implications and challenges.



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Resources



- Website: www.SBE.wa.gov
- Blog: washingtonSBE.wordpress.com
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/washingtonSBE
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/wa_SBE
- Email: sbe@sbe.wa.gov
- Phone: 360-725-6025

